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29 May 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Acting Director of Central Intelligence
SUBJECT: Telephone Call From the Attorney General

1. This memorandum is for your information.
2. The Attorney General telephoned me this morning to ask if it were true that Francis Gary Powers was going to write a book. I replied that I did not know, but would check. I asked the Attorney General where he got this report. He said it came from the authors of the U-2 book who claimed that they had kept certain confidential information about the flights out of the book and were concerned that Powers was going to steal some of their thunder.
3. I asked Mr. Houston to look into this matter for me. He reported back that Powers is not writing a book, has not contracted for one, although he is being showered with offers which are being turned over to his lawyer. The two principal offers are \$12,500 from THE SATURDAY EVENING POST for three articles and \$25,000, plus royalties from McGraw Hill for a piece of undetermined length. Both of these were to deal with Powers' experience as a Soviet prisoner.
4. Mr. Houston and I discussed the question of Powers' writing at some length. We agreed that we should make it clear to him the Agency's opposition to his authoring any articles at least while he is in our employ. He is scheduled to return to the Air Force on 1 September. Mr. Houston will follow-up on this to insure that Powers is crystal clear about our views in this general matter.
5. I have passed the foregoing to the Attorney General.

(Signed) Richard Helms

Richard Helms
Deputy Director (Plans)

cc: Mr. Houston

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